Maryland Emergency Management Agency Public Assistance (PA) Program Eligible Work

Emergency Work

· Category A: Debris Removal

• Category B: Emergency Protective Measures

Permanent Work

• Category C: Roads and Bridges

Category D: Water Control Facilities

• Category E: Building and Equipment

Category F: Utilities

• Category G: Parks, Recreational Facilities, and Other Facilities

Categories of Work

Category A: Debris Removal

Potentially eligible debris removal activities include the clearance of:

- trees and woody debris;
- building components or contents;
- sand, mud, silt, and gravel;
- wreckage produced during conduct of emergency protective measures (e.g., drywall); and
- Other disaster-related wreckage.

Examples of eligible debris removal activities include:

- Debris removal from a street or highway to allow the safe passage of emergency vehicles;
- Debris removal from public property to eliminate health and safety hazards;

Examples of ineligible debris removal activities include:

- Removal of debris, such as tree limbs and trunks, from natural (unimproved) wilderness areas
- · Removal of pre-disaster sediment from engineered channels
- Removal of debris from a natural channel unless the debris poses an immediate threat of flooding to improved property

Debris removal from private property is generally not eligible because it is the responsibility of the individual property owner. If property owners move the disaster-related debris to a public right-of-way, the local government may be reimbursed for curbside pickup and disposal for a limited period of time. If the debris on private business and residential property is so widespread that public health, safety, or the economic recovery of the community is threatened, FEMA may fund debris removal from private property, but it must be approved in advance by FEMA.

For debris removal to be eligible, the work must be necessary to:

- Eliminate an immediate threat to lives, public health and safety;
- Eliminate immediate threats of significant damage to improved public or private property;
- Ensure the economic recovery of the affected community to the benefit of the community-at-large; or
- Mitigate the risk of life and property by removing substantially damaged structures and associated appurtenances as needed to convert property acquired through a FEMA hazard mitigation program to uses compatible with open space, recreation, or wetlands management practices.

Documentation for Debris Removal Activities includes:

- Force account labor hours (regular and overtime/compensatory time):
- · Equipment use information;
- · Estimate of debris handled, removed, disposed of;
- Location (GPS reading) of locations where debris was collected and disposed of (cradle to grave);
- If contract services were utilized, copy of the contract and how the contract was bid/solicited

Eligible Costs include:

- Force account labor hours
 - Regular hours (dependent upon FEMA pilot status)
 - Overtime and/or compensatory time
- Equipment costs
- Contract costs

Category B: Emergency Protective Measures

Emergency protective measures are those activities undertaken by a community before, during, and following a disaster that are necessary to do one of the following:

- Eliminate or reduce an immediate threat to life, public health, or safety; or
- Eliminate or reduce an immediate threat of significant damage to improved public or private property through cost-effective measures.

Generally, those prudent actions taken by a community to warn residents, reduce the disaster damage, ensure the continuation of essential public services, and protect lives and public health and safety are eligible for assistance.

Examples of eligible emergency protective measures are:

- Warning of risks and hazards (barricades, signs, and announcements)
- Search and rescue, including transportation of disaster victims
- Emergency medical facilities.
- Emergency evacuations of medical and custodial care facilities.
- Facility costs (but not labor costs) for emergency mass care and shelter operations provided by volunteer agencies.

Examples of eligible emergency protective measures (cont.):

- Provision of temporary facilities for schools and essential community services (e.g., construction of temporary bridge, temporary hookup of utilities, essential temporary buildings for schools or government offices).
- Activation of State or local emergency operations center to coordinate and direct the response to a disaster event.
- Demolition and removal of damaged public and private buildings and structures that pose an immediate threat to the safety of the general public.
- Removal of health and safety hazards (e.g., pumping of trapped floodwaters.
- Construction of temporary levees, berms, dikes, and sandbagging (by itself or on top of levee).
- Buttressing, bracing, or shoring of a damaged structure to protect against further damage to the structure, or to protect the general public.
- Emergency measures to prevent further damage to an eligible facility (e.g., boarding windows or doors, covering the roof, etc.).
- Emergency communications.
- Emergency public transportation.



- Facility costs for emergency mass care and shelter operations provided by governmental entities when volunteer agencies are unable to provide emergency mass care and shelter.
- Security in the disaster area.
- Provision of food, water, ice, and other essential needs at central distribution points for use by the local population.
- Temporary generators for facilities that provide health and safety services.
- Rescue, care, shelter, and essential needs for household pets and service animals if claimed by a State or local government.

- Building inspections.
- Snow Removal if snowfall is of record or near record amount using National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) data. [Refer to FEMA Policy 9523.1, Snow Assistance Policy]

Documentation for Emergency Protective Measures includes:

- Force account labor hours (regular and overtime/compensatory time); [only overtime/compensatory time is eligible for reimbursement]
- Equipment use information;
- If contract services were utilized, copy of the contract and how the contract was bid/solicited;
- Invoices for supplies and materials.

Category C: Roads and Bridges

Roads, bridges, and associated facilities (e.g., auxiliary structures, lighting, and signage) are eligible. For roads (paved, gravel, and dirt), eligible items include:

- Surfaces
- Bases
- Shoulders
- Ditches
- Drainage structures; and
- Low water crossings.

For bridges, eligible items include:

- Decking and pavement
- Piers
- Girders
- Abutments
- Slope protection; and
- Approaches.

Upgrades necessary to meet current standards for road and bridge construction, such as standards for pavement and lane width, may be eligible for Public Assistance.

Category D: Water Control Facilities

Water control facilities include:

- Dams and reservoirs;
- Levees:
- Lined and unlined engineered drainage channels;
- Canals;
- Aqueducts;
- Sediment basins;
- Shore protective devices;
- Irrigation facilities (for PNP Irrigation eligibility)
- Pumping facilities.

The United State Army Corp of Engineers (USACE) and the Department of Agriculture – National Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) have primary authority for repair of flood control works, whether constructed with Federal or non-Federal funds, as well as authority over federally funded shore protective devices. Therefore, permanent repairs to these facilities are not eligible through the PA Program.

Restoration of the carrying or storage capacity of engineered channels and debris basins may be eligible, but maintenance records or surveys must be produced to show the pre-disaster capacity of these facilities.

Category E: Buildings and Equipment

Buildings, structural components, interior systems such as electrical or mechanical work, equipment, and contents including furnishings, are eligible for repair or replacement. Public assistance may be provided for the replacement of pre-disaster quantities of consumable supplies and inventory.

FEMA may reimburse for upgrades that are required by certain codes and standards provided the upgrade work is required as a direct result of the disaster.

When equipment, including vehicles, is not repairable, FEMA will approve the cost of replacement with used items that are approximately the same age, capacity, and condition. FEMA may use "blue book" values or similar price guides to determine the eligible cost for used equipment and vehicles.

Note: If an insurance policy applies to a building, equipment, contents, etc., FEMA must take that policy into account before providing funds for restoration of the building.

Category F: Utilities

Utilities include:

- Water treatment plants and delivery systems;
- Power generation and distribution facilities, including natural gas systems, wind turbines, generators, substations, and power lines;
- Sewage collection systems and treatment plants; and
- Communications.

FEMA does not provide funds for general surveys to look for damage (e.g., video inspection of sewer lines). However, if disaster-related damage is evident (e.g., loss of or increased flow in a pipe), FEMA may pay for inspections to determine the extent of the damage and method of repair.

Category G: Parks, Recreation Facilities and Other Facilities

Eligible publicly owned facilities in this category include:

- Mass transit facilities such as railways;
- Playground equipment;
- Swimming pools;
- Bath houses;
- Tennis courts;
- Boat docks;
- Piers;
- Picnic tables;

Eligible publicly owned facilities (cont.):

- Golf courses;
- Fish hatcheries; and
- Facilities that do not fit Categories C F.

Natural features are not eligible facilities unless they are improved and maintained. This restriction applies to features located in parks and recreational areas. Specific criteria apply to beaches and to trees and ground cover.